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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazuyoshi TAMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1765

Application No.: 09/696,955

Examiner: M. A. Anderson

Filed: October 27, 2000

Docket No.: 107703

For: SILICON FOCUS RING AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

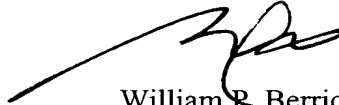
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., *Quayle* Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. See 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. A Japanese language version of the foreign office action is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

- ☒ 4. Computer-generated English translations of the referenced Japanese Patent Publications 09-283495 and 11-092283 have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 28, 2004

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Form PTO-1449 JAN 28 2004 OFFICE OF PATENT & TRADEMARK		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 107703		APPLICATION NO. 09/696,915	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Kazuyoshi TAMURA et al.			
				FILING DATE October 27, 2000		GROUP 1765	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	JP A 05-114583 with English abstract	05/1993	Japan			
	2	JP A 09-283495 with English abstract and translation	10/1997	Japan			
	3	JP A 11-092283 with English abstract and translation	04/1999	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: January 28, 2004